



MI-CW4009

Michigan Crop Weather

October 5, 2009

Rain and Frost

Four days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending October 4, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.89 inch in the central Lower Peninsula to 2.24 inches in the southwest Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 7 degrees below normal in the southwest Lower Peninsula to 4 degrees below normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Temperatures dropped as low as 17 degrees in the western Upper Peninsula and 24 degrees in the northeast Lower Peninsula. Excess rainfall, high winds, and cold temperatures put a stop to fieldwork during much of the week. Widespread frost experienced early in the week ended the growing season for most crops.

Field Crops

Wet conditions early in the week combined with widespread frost on Thursday, resulted in increased emergence of wheat and virtually ended growth in others. Due to the later than normal harvest of soybeans, **wheat** planting continued on land that was previously in other crops. Early planted wheat emerged with the precipitation received. Harvest of **birdsfoot trefoil** continued. Thursday's frost practically ended **corn** growth. There were several reports that the frost came two weeks too soon. Corn was at or nearing black layer, but some fields were still immature. The frost will aid the dry down process in corn. Corn for silage harvest continued. Seed corn harvest continued in the southwest. **Soybeans**, in some areas, were still dropping leaves. In other areas, soybeans were harvested as conditions permitted. In the south central, late planted fields were hurt by the frost. A few dry days would allow soybeans to be harvested in Jackson County. **Alfalfa** harvest continued. Newly seeded alfalfa benefitted from rain. **Sugarbeet** harvest continued on an as needed basis. Harvest was aided by moisture. **Dry bean** harvest was progressing.

Soil moisture for week ending 10/04/09

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	3	8	74	15
Subsoil	4	20	69	7

Crop condition for week ending 10/04/09

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	2	10	31	47	10
Corn	4	13	28	44	11
Dry beans	3	17	32	34	14
Pasture	2	14	45	32	7
Soybeans	3	12	31	45	9

Fruit

As weather permitted, **apple** harvest slowly progressed. Growers were primarily picking Golden Delicious in the southwest. In the east, growers adjusted their harvest sequence from previous years. Spot picking of early maturing strains of Golden Delicious continued; harvest of Jonathan and Cortland was winding down, as more than half of the Jonagold varieties were picked. Niagara **grape** harvest continued in the southwest. In the northwest, foliar conditions of wine grapes declined, and Brix readings for Pinot Noir and Riesling were lower than normal for this time of year.

Vegetables

Growth of warm season vegetable crops ended with a frost in most areas of the State. **Tomato** harvest was active to get the crop out of the field. Some green tomatoes will ripen in storage. **Pepper** harvest wrapped up with most growers reporting good yields and quality. **Winter squash** and **pumpkins** continued to be harvested with the majority completed. Cool summer temperatures left some green pumpkins. **Cantaloup** and **watermelon** harvests were complete. **Sweet corn** harvest ended across the State. Growers noted that some fields would not ripen due to the cool summer conditions. **Potato** harvest continued with above average yields observed on many fields. In the southwest, **eggplant** harvest wrapped up. **Onion** harvest was nearing completion. **Carrot** harvest continued. Harvest of cole crops, including **cabbage**, **cauliflower**, and **broccoli**, were winding down, with yields and quality at average or better.

Crop progress for week ending 10/04/09

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, third cutting	87	81	87	90
All hay, fourth cutting	42	33	36	40
Apples, harvested	39	30	48	53
Corn, dent	90	80	99	98
Corn, mature	38	19	77	77
Corn, harvested	2	0	7	11
Corn silage, harvested	59	38	87	89
Dry beans, dropping leaves	99	78	96	99
Dry beans, harvested	57	42	46	73
Potatoes, harvested	49	38	56	56
Soybeans, turning leaves	96	83	100	97
Soybeans, dropping leaves	78	53	91	85
Soybeans, harvested	3	1	18	23
Sugarbeets, harvested	11	8	10	9
Winter wheat, planted	27	20	35	38
Winter wheat, emerged	10	NA	4	10

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 10/04/09 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2009	2008	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	61	28		1,840	1,907		1.90	2.67	2.78	14.05		
Marquette	54	27		1,700	1,793		1.90	2.67	2.78	15.58		
Stephenson	62	25		2,086	2,223		2.51	3.67	3.67	16.83		
Western UP	62	17	-6	1,824	1,876	1,933	1.66	2.43	2.56	15.21	20.32	2.57
Cornell	56	30		1,903	2,100		1.68	2.28	2.42	14.61		
Sault St Marie	61	31		1,720	1,832		1.06	1.41	1.41	14.62		
Eastern UP	61	29	-4	1,703	1,834	1,709	1.77	2.23	2.43	16.50	19.24	2.57
Beulah	58	30		2,131	2,420		1.26	2.26	2.54	20.40		
Lake City	57	26		2,024	2,266		1.35	3.07	3.95	21.64		
Old Mission	59	32		2,018	2,309		2.21	2.80	2.80	15.14		
Pellston	58	25		1,897	2,148		2.21	2.86	2.90	15.28		
Northwest	59	25	-5	1,969	2,222	2,214	2.11	3.04	3.28	16.46	18.46	2.75
Alpena	59	31		2,008	2,243		1.34	3.62	3.66	22.67		
Houghton Lake	56	24		2,041	2,313		1.01	2.06	3.14	19.41		
Rogers City	61	28		1,959	2,217		1.06	2.26	2.68	23.43		
Northeast	61	24	-5	1,998	2,243	2,142	1.17	2.61	3.08	20.62	18.29	2.40
Fremont	61	29		2,317	2,515		1.37	3.84	3.84	18.78		
Hart	58	28		2,183	2,403		1.36	2.28	2.33	19.15		
Muskegon	61	31		2,528	2,567		1.37	3.04	3.34	17.92		
West Central	74	25	-6	2,299	2,459	2,423	1.19	2.32	2.65	18.83	18.47	2.94
Alma	61	30		2,367	2,623		0.76	1.47	1.57	20.68		
Big Rapids	63	28		2,206	2,490		0.83	1.23	1.25	21.53		
Central	63	28	-5	2,286	2,540	2,500	0.89	1.55	1.59	19.56	19.27	2.59
Bad Axe	58	38		2,223	2,524		0.87	1.69	1.93	18.31		
Pigeon	59	33		2,192	2,427		1.27	1.79	1.79	18.44		
Saginaw	60	32		2,441	2,701		0.67	1.28	1.61	17.52		
Standish	60	29		2,174	2,377		0.81	2.10	2.42	17.70		
East Central	60	29	-6	2,216	2,530	2,512	1.05	1.78	2.01	18.84	17.15	2.41
Fennville	62	31		2,397	2,577		2.92	3.35	3.36	22.28		
Grand Rapids	60	30		2,660	2,914		1.26	1.90	2.25	23.52		
Holland	61	33		2,754	2,949		2.81	3.59	4.39	34.65		
South Bend, IN	63	33		2,807	3,019		1.74	2.07	2.14	23.80		
Watervliet	62	32		2,591	2,765		2.47	3.09	3.21	21.14		
Southwest	64	28	-7	2,605	2,791	2,741	2.24	2.97	3.12	22.47	19.81	2.99
Belding	62	28		2,333	2,581		1.62	2.07	2.07	20.51		
Coldwater	63	31		2,680	2,777		1.86	2.07	2.24	19.90		
Lansing	62	31		2,510	2,797		0.66	1.03	1.20	25.48		
South Central	64	28	-6	2,460	2,720	2,690	1.31	1.86	2.14	22.00	19.31	2.41
Detroit	63	38		2,884	3,114		1.01	1.26	2.21	20.71		
Flint	63	29		2,469	2,828		0.65	1.32	1.61	23.75		
Romeo	65	33		2,472	2,690		0.69	1.35	3.12	20.11		
Tipton	62	32		2,569	2,806		2.80	3.23	4.63	21.77		
Toledo, OH	62	46		2,879	3,070		2.50	3.05	5.23	22.00		
Southeast	65	28	-5	2,588	2,872	2,688	1.25	1.66	2.68	19.72	18.35	2.33

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.